# MATWATCH

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Closer-Cropped Ric at STARRCADE

## IT'S OVER: FLAIR'S THE SCORPION, STING'S STILL THE CHAMPION

**ST. LOUIS----Surviving four decoys, a spacecraft arrival and a brutal post-match attack in a locked cage, Sting defeated The Black Scorpion with a flying body block from the top rope in 18:30 to retain the NWA/WCW world heavyweight championship in the main event of STARRCADE '90 here Sunday night. Sting unmasked the Scorpion as former NWA champ Ric Flair.**

Four Scorpions marched to the cage before a spacecraft came from the ceiling to reveal the "real" Scorpion. Sting entered and scored an early clothesline but Flair, doing a masterful job of disguising his traditional style, slowed the action into a Japanese headscissors. At the 7:00 mark, referee Dick the Bruiser, shifted to cage match duties, shoved the Scorp after he used the ropes for leverage. Sting rallied for a military press and clothesline at 9:18 but crashed into the cage at 9:50. He was fenced again at 12:13 and took a piledriver for a 2-count before putting a foot on the ropes.

After taking several crashes into the fence, Sting rebounded for a head-cracker at 15:00 and a Stinger splash. He applied the Scorpion deathlock at 15:38 but the Scorpion scooted to the ropes 30 seconds later. A determined Sting removed the Scorpion mask but the villain had on a second mask. The two battled at top of the cage but Sting fell off and the Scorpion crotched himself. Sting revived, tossed the Scorpion twice into the cage, military pressed him and flew off the top rope with a clothesline for the win at 18:30.

But the Four Scorpions charged the ring. Sting and the Bruiser tried to fend them off and unmasked them as Barry Windham, Arn Anderson, Bill Irwin and Dave (Angel of Death) Sheldon, the latter two who had played the Scorpion earlier in the fall. The fake Scorpions decked Bruiser, then pounded Sting and DDTd him on a chair. Ricky Morton, Tom Zenk and Terry Taylor tried to climb the cage to save but the Steiners dashed down with giant wire snips to open the cage door. A 5-on-5 brawl erupted and Sting revived to pull off the Scorpion mask to reveal a quick shot of a bloody, shorter-haired Ric Flair. MATCH RATING: DRAW....RESTHOLD-PLUS for the match but extra for the aftermath.

*In Street Fight*

### HORSEMEN, DOOM PLAY TWIN PIN

**ST. LOUIS---In a bizarre finish to one of the year's most punishing affairs, DOOM and the Horsemen team of Arn Anderson and Barry Windham fought to a double pin in the WCW world tag team championship match here Sunday night.**

Ron Simmons and Butch Reed retain the belts after a match in which all four were a bloody pulp and brawled down the Kiel Auditorium runway ramp onto the stage. Early in the show, viewers were told Ric Flair, scheduled as Anderson's partner, had "withdrawn" because of "injuries" from the recent WCW limo ride angle.

Windham was the first to bleed, after being posted by Reed. Simmons juiced after being hit with a chair by Anderson, who was later posted. Within four minutes, all four were a "crimson mask."

Windham survived a spinebuster on Simmons and Simmons kicked out of a superplex by Windham at 5:17. Reed tried a finishing shoulderblock, countered by a DDT by Windham. But Simmons, at the same moment, creamed Anderson with a chair.

Referee Nick Patrick counted a slow double pin at 7:24 but didn't ring the bell until 13 seconds later. The brawl continued for another two and a half minutes. Announcers Jim Ross and Paul E. Dangerously sold the confused finish, saying the video replay was inconclusive. MATCH RATING: PILEDRIVER.

### LUGER REGAINS U.S. TITLE

ST. LOUIS----He did. No, he didn't. Yes, after all he did.

After a double false finish, Lex Luger regained the U.S. heavyweight championship for a fourth time Sunday night, defeating Stan Hansen in a Texas lariat match in 10:13.

In the match, where the winner had to touch all four corners of the ring while attached to his opponent via eight-foot rope, each man managed to touch three corners in the first six minutes. But Hansen was posted and thrown into the guard rail before being legdropped three times by Luger at 7:20. At 8:08, Luger touched all four corners but as he touched the fourth, referee Pee Wee Anderson went down.

Hansen attacked Luger with a cowboy boot and referee Nick Patrick dashed down and ordered the match to continue. Hansen clotheslined Luger and touched all four. Patrick signaled Hansen the winner but Anderson revived and declared Luger the new champion. MATCH RATING: POWERSLAM-PLUS. *(More STARRCADE coverage on Pages 2 and 3).*

STARRCADE SCOREBOARD

## Against Muta, Saito

# STEINERS WIN O'CONNOR TOURNEY

ST. LOUIS----Rick and Scott Steiner rallied from a spike piledriver to win the first Pat O'Connor International Tag Team Tournament over Masa Saito and The Great Muta in 9:54 here Sunday night at STARRCADE '90.

The Steiners and Muta traded clotheslines and spinkicks in the first 90 seconds. Saito then came in with chops before Rick dropkicked Masa and followed with a Steinerline. Muta, attempting to go off top, crotched himself.

But Muta recovered to handspring elbow Scott but Scotty kicked Muta on a second try and belly-to-bellied Keiji for a 2-count. Saito tagged in for a waistlift suplex on Rick. Rick posted at 5:04, then Muta hits Rick with bell, then clotheslined him.

Rick finally tagged Scott, who doublearm suplexed Muta. But Saito tagged, rallied and Muta/Saito spike piledrove Scott. Saito clamped a sleeper on Scott but Rick came off the top onto Masa with a sunset flip for the pin & tourney title at 9:54. POWERSLAM.

## O'CONNOR TAG TOURNEY
### Quarterfinals

STEINERS D. COL. DeKLERK/SGT. KRUEGER: Quick & dirty to get Steiners over. Wildest move: DeKlerk (Ted Petty) tried 360-degree over-the-top fly and was caught mid-air upside down by Rick. Scott wins with Frankensteiner in 1:50. DRAW.

KONAN/REY MISTERIO D. NORMAN SMILEY/CHRIS ADAMS: Crowd unfamiliar with Latins and both teams worked as faces. Adams caught Misterio with Superkick in 1:25 but Konan showed wide array of aerials. Konan scored the fall with a reverse suplex and bridge at 4:28. Adams superkicked Misterio out of ring after. DRAW-PLUS....good match, crowd reax weak.

GREAT MUTA/MASA SAITO D. ROYAL FAMILY: Lots of "Mu-ta, Mu-ta" cheers. Muta scored early dropkick and high-fly onto runway on Jacko Victory. Morgan suplexed Saito and Victory posted Saito's arm at 4:35 but Rip missed legdrop at 4:55. Muta tagged for handspring kick on Jack. Then, Rip clotheslined Jacko & Muta bridged for pin on Victory at 5:40. DRAW.

VICTOR ZANGIEV/SALMON HASIMIKOV D. BULL JOHNSON/TROY MONTOUR: Russians vs. Canadians and none familiar enough to get crowd up. Zangiev goes for bow-and-arrow on Johnson early, then followed with waistlift suplex. Hasimikov won it in 3:56 with belly-to-belly amid tentative ref count. BOMB-PLUS....Canadians terrible & Russian style too slow for fans.

BOBBY EATON D. TOM ZENK: In the opener, Zenk scored with two cross body blocks from the top rope in first minute. At 4:40, Zenk creamed Eaton w. suplex onto runway and flying cross over the top rope. But Bobby rallied for a bulldog amid huge cheers, following with a legdrop from the top, then after a missed crash, scored a neckbreaker. But Zenk superkicked Bobby off another top-rope fly but Z-Man missed his own fly & Bobby packaged him for a pin at 8:46. DRAW-PLUS.

MICHAEL WALLSTREET D. TERRY TAYLOR: Storyline: Wallstreet predicts victory in 8:32 but Taylor jumps Mike before he can get off his suit. Lots of "Wallstreet SUX" chants. Wallstreet rallies for suplexes, then uses the ropes during an abdominal stretch. Taylor rallied for a fivearm and Wallstreet put foot on rope at 6:17. Mike reverted for a hot shot at 6:41 and followed with the Stock Market Crash for a pin at 6:50. DRAW-PLUS.

SKYSCRAPERS D. MOTOR CITY MADMAN/CURTIS HUGHES: Mercifully, Nightstalker was pulled from this one. Brawl starts before the bell. 'Scrapers over big. Sid & Danny double powerbomb Madman in 1:00 for win, big cheers. RESTHOLD.

TOMMY RICH/RICKY MORTON D. FREEBIRDS: Rock & Country Express go to attack early & knock out Richard Marley. As Michael tossed out, Robert Gibson nails him with crutch. Faces go for stereo figure-4s at 3:00. Hayes bulldogs Ricky from rollup at 4:30. Marley climbs top to jump on Rich but Gibson clobbers him w. crutch & he bumps Garvin. An angry Jimmy chokes Marley & a distracted Garvin is rolled up by Morton for pin at 7:14. 'Birds then attack & double DDT Marley before faces save. But 'Birds doubleclothesline a trapped Gibson on the ramp. DRAW.

## O'CONNOR TAG TOURNEY
### Semifinals

STEINERS D. KONAN/MISTERIO: Great amateur moves early by Rick & Konan. Konan moved into Indian deathlock but Scott rallied to powerslam Konan at 1:00. Rick bulldoged Konan from top at 1:19. Rick powerbombed Misterio for the win at 2:52. DRAW...Good moves but little heat.

SAITO/MUTA D. ZANGIEV/HASIMIKOV: I enjoyed the wrestling even the crowd was dead. Zangiev suplexed Muta early and Hasimikov went for a crab but Muta broke it up. Hasimikov followed with powerful belly-to-belly and side suplexes on Muta. But Saito, Zangiev tagged in and Saito clotheslined and suplexed Zangiev for the pin at 3:20. POWERSLAM....I can't downgrade this match just because of the quiet fans.

## STARRCADE SIDEBARS

Some people will find this confusing: the main event may have been THE performance of Ric Flair's career. For him to have disguised his traditional speed-and-chop style so dramatically was phenomenal. Even though it slowed the pace and action of the match, it maintained the mystery except for hardcores who knew better....Interesting how the spacecraft was used for Flair's arrival. That same thing was proposed for the arrival of Muta at a pay-per-view show last year and resoundingly rejected....Tension reported over the Royal Family match finish. Jack and Rip were told originally it was to be a respectable match. When they arrived Sunday, they were told it they'd take a quick squash. They refused, so the ending was revised....Production was tremendous. The audience was lit better than at any WCW pay-per-view. Only thing needed: a battery light when the players would brawl

(Continued on Page 3)

## STARRCADE SIDEBARS

(Continued from Page 2)

on the ramp....There wasn't an absolute total BOMB match on this show. The Canadians actually turned out to be the weakest team in the tournament....I don't know if the crowd was so quiet because they didn't get into the wrestling or because they simply didn't know who many of the internationals, aside from the Royal Family, Chris Adams and Muta were. I think the latter....Jim Ross produced an interesting show, to my mind, and Paul E. turned in a yeoman's effort on color, except for one thing: Paul is overdoing the "wham" on power moves....We'll get complaints for saying this but much speculation is Flair will win the belt Jan. 11 at the Meadowlands....A bit of credibility in at least using two of the legitimate past Black Scorpions in the closing brawl in Sheldon and Irwin....If I'd have one suggestion, I'd say the tournament crowded the show a bit with eight teams, particularly since most of them could not be built personally. A better suggestion would have been to do a four-team affair. The show would have still had ten matches and the tremendous DOOM-Horsemen brawl could have gone longer. I'd have graded their battle PILEDRIVER-PLUS, except the double pin was a weak point....The STARRCADE STATS and time clock were two of the best production innovations yet.

## THEY SAID IT!!!

1. Ross: "Bobby Eaton's partner started dating Yoko Ono. That's why the team broke up." 2. Ross: "You're a psychoceramic." Paul E.: "What does that mean?" Ross: "It means you're a crackpot." 3. Ross: "Bobby Eaton's moves endorsed by NASA." 4. Ross: "I hope Missy's not wearing one of those atom bomb dresses. Those are the ones with 50% fallout." 5. Paul E. on Russians: "They're a lot different from the Russian athletes I know. They have hair." 6. Ross: "Wallstreet is trying to go from the cash register to the Social Register." 7. Sting: "A lot of people have been saying, 'You're not the same Sting.'" 8. Ross/Paul E.: (JR) "Alexandra York should have some plastic surgery. She should have her nose lowered." (PE) "Missy Hyatt could tell her something about plastic surgery." (JR) "I knew you'd get that in." (PE) "Sure. I have it written down right here." 9. Ross, to Paul E.: "You're the guy who went to Disney World and boarded the monorail and said, 'Hi. I'm Bernie Getz.'" 10. Ross: "Little Richard Marley is a pain in the neck and a lot of people have an even lower opinion of him."

11. Paul E., on Freebirds-Rich/Morton: "It's like Milli Vanilli challenging New Kids on the Block to a battle of the bands." 12. Ross: "We're gonna get Tony a raincoat for any more interviews with Hansen." 13. Teddy Long, to Horsemen: "I've fallen and I can't get up." 14. Paul E., on Muta's clothesline: "I guess you'd call that a Mutaline." 15. Paul E., on Bruiser: "He looks like Popeye the Sailorman."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Paul E.: "DeKlerk is just as great a high-flyer as Scott Steiner."

WORST PREDICTION - Paul E.: "There's no way Luger will beat Hansen in a Texas lariat match."

BEST PICTURES - 1. DOOM-Horsemen street fight. 2. Cauliflower ear of Zangiev. 3. Closeups of Harry White & Steve Sims. 4. Spivey/Vicious lifting Paul E. by his neck. 5. Ted Petty doing 360-degree flip. 6. Closeup of Sting tossed into fence. 7. Luger-Hansen brawl outside. 8. Jimmy Suzuki clobbered while Luger-Hansen brawled. 9. Closeup of Hansen being posted. 10. Entrance of Flair as Scorpion.

DREADED GLITCH AWARDS - 1. Spelling of lariat as "lariet." 2. Audio weak on Sam Muchnick's opening remarks. 3. STARRCADE STATS card stating "both men represent the HORSEMAN."

### MATWATCH 25 SCALE

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| PRODUCTION VALUES | 4.5 |
| ANNOUNCING | 4.5 |
| QUALITY OF MATCHES | 2.9 |
| CROWD ENTHUSIASM | 2.2 |
| OVERALL EXCELLENCE OF SHOW | 3.8 |
| TOTAL RATING | 17.9 |

## TV TEMPO

Dec. 10-16

(UWF) - Cactus Jack/Jack Armstrong d. David Sammartino/Jay Strongbow Jr. when Cactus hits Jay w. object. Larry Zbyszko argues with David during the finish; [ANGLE]: Bob Orton Jr. headbutts B. Brian Blair's valet Honey. RESTHOLD.

(LUCHA LIBRE) - (6-WOMAN) Lola Gonzalez/Lady Apache/La Sirenita d. Marai del Angel/Martha Villalobos/L Pantera Surena 2-3; Fuerza Guerrera/Jerry Estrada/Emilio Charles Jr. d. Octagon/El Nuevo Huracan Ramirez Jr./El Volador 2 straight; El Satanico/Ulises/Universo Dos Mil d. El Danady/Sangre Chicana/Atlantis 2 straight when Dandy DQ'd in second fall; Cien Caras/Mascara Ano Dos Mil/Fabuloso Baldy (Ken Timbs) d. Ringo Mendoza/Konan el Barbaro/El Rayo de Jalisco Jr. 2-3. DRAW.

(WWF/SYN) - [CHALLENGE]: Rick Martel d. Sonny Blaze; Davey Boy Smith d. Scott Colantonio; Big Bossman d. Dave Durham; Earthquake d. Jim McPherson; [I-C TITLE] Curt Hennig d. Kerry Von Erich to regain belt; Bushwackers d. Black Bart/Chris Duffy. RESTHOLD-PLUS.
[SUPERSTARS]: Undertaker d. Mario Mancini; Power & Glory d. Ron Cumberledge/Rick Sampson; Jim Duggan d. Barry Hardy; (SEGMENT) Jacques Rougeau debuts as The Mountie; (UPDATE) Ultimate Warrior-Sgt. Slaughter match announced for ROYAL RUMBLE; (REPLAY) Ted DiBiase attempts to buy Dustin Rhodes on BRO. LUV; (I-C TITLE) Hennig d. Von Erich when guest ring announcer DiBiase, who bought off Howard Finkel, creams Kerry w. I-C belt during ref bump; Shane Douglas d. Black Demon; Other winners: Legion of Doom. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(USWA/SYN) - [CHALLENGE]: Doug Gilbert/Tony Anthony d. Chris Champion/Brickhouse Brown; Jeff Jarrett/Danny Davis d. J.D. Wolfe/Joey Maggs; Cody Michaels d. Ben Jordan; Bill Dundee d. Sheik Hussein; Jerry Lawler d. Eddie Gilbert by DQ. DRAW-PLUS.
[BEST OF CHAMPIONSHIP]: Hussein d. Champion; Davis no contest vs. Dundee when Memphis Mafia attacks both; Anthony/Doug Gilbert d. New Kids; [WORLD LT. HWT. TITLE] Jim Backlund d. Brown when heel ref Mickey Jay declares Backlund winner after

2-count; Michaels/Jarrett d. Ken Wayne/Magliano. DRAW.

(LPWA) - Bambi d. Lady X (Peggy Lee Leathers); Terry Power d. Candi Divine; Misty Blue Simmes/Heidi Lee Morgan d. LaGata/Alva Alvarez. POWERSLAM.

(ICW) - Kendall Windham d. Eric Sapracea; S&S Express d. Russian Brutes; Tony Atlas d. Ivan Putski; Mr. Pogo d. Ray Oddyssey; (BATTLE ROYAL) Vic Steamboat wins. BOMB-PLUS.

(PRO WRESTLING '90) - Jack Victory d. Black Assassin; (From LPWA) Reggie Bennett d. Dawn Marie; (CLASSIC) Dan Kroffat/Wild Bill Cody d. Gilbert Hayes/Luis Ramirez (Ed Whalen calls from 20 years ago); (6-MAN) Chris Walker/Curtis Thompson/Fabian d. Avengers/Craig Richards; (INTL) Mr. Pogo/Kendo Nagasaki win tag match; Billy Black/Steve Prichard d. Festus/Jim Powell when Mr. Wrestling (feigning arm injury) takes cast & knocks out Powell. RESTHOLD.

(WWF/USA) - [PRIME TIME]: Davey Boy d. Boris Zhukov; (UPDATE) ROYAL RUMBLE Preview; (From NBC) Curt Hennig d. Big Bossman by countout when Boss chases Bobby Heenan to dressing room; Koko B. Ware d. Bob Bradley; Undertaker d. Rick Sampson; Bushwackers d. Bart/Duffy; (SKETCH) Buddy Rose in "Blowaway" commercial; Rose d. Mario Mancini; Barbarian d. Battlekat; Martel d. Blaze; Earthquake d. McPherson; (BRO. LUV) Hacksaw Jim Duggan blasts Sgt. Slaughter. DRAW.

(ASWA) - R.I.P. Sawyer d. Bubba Moore; (ANGLE) Dog brought in as R.I.P. Sawyer; Sledgehammer Magill d. Warpig; Kirk Dredd vs. Johnny Lawler double countout; (BATTLE OF BADMEN) Exotic Adrian Hall wins; (ASWA TITLE) A.J. Fritzoid d. Morgas the Maniac. Bounty Hunter runs in at end; (LONDON LINE) Axel Rotten watches as Mr. Hollywood Bob Starr sneak attacks Steelworker Tim Dyer. BOMB-PLUS.

(WCW/TBS) - [POWER HOUR]: Brian Pillman d. Tim Hughes; Lex Luger d. Joe Cezana; Curtis Hughes d. Phillip Parrish; Stan Hansen d. Elmer Bizzle; (WNN) Gordon Solie reviews key STARRCADE feuds; Steiners d. State Patrol; Sting d. Moondog Rex but is attacked by female fan while Black Scorpion's voice again haunts. RESTHOLD.
[WCW]: (Key Highlights) (REPLAYS) Reviews of Sting-Scorpion; Luger-Hansen; DOOM-Horsemen; Zenk-Eaton feuds; Zenk d. Jeff Sword; Michael Wallstreet d. Brett Wayne Sawyer; (REPLAY) Wallstreet-Terry Taylor brawl; (ANGLE) Alexandra York slaps Taylor during interview with Paul E.; Ricky Morton/Tommy Rich d. State Patrol & toss in Richard Marley who appears at ringside. Freebirds run-in & start short brawl; Pillman d. Dave Johnson; [STREET FIGHT] DOOM d. R.C. Richards/Rick Hardrock; [WCW CLASSICS/From STARRCADE '89) Ric Flair d. Great Muta; (ANGLE) Sid Vicious destroys Nightstalker, eliminating him from STARRCADE. RESTHOLD-PLUS.
[MAIN EVENT]: (REPLAYS) Sting-Scorpion, Luger-Hansen, Sid Vicious-Nightstalker/Curtis Hughes, DOOM-Horsemen feuds; Luger d. Jim Corbett; (PREDICTIONS) Paul E. puts up his dukes against Solie after STARRCADE predictions; (From CLASH XIII) Flair d. Butch Reed when Arn Anderson uses chair during ref distraction; Other winners: Steiners. DRAW.

(PORTLAND) - [2 Wks. Ago]: Equalizer d. John Rambo w. leg on ropes; Scotty the Body/Steve Doll d. Al Madril/Doug Masters; (ANGLE I) Scotty chases Grap w. loaded boot during seg; (ANGLE II) Eq attacks Doll w. bearhug until faces save; Bart Sawyer d. Dirty White Boy on reversal when ref told Madril hit Bart to set up pin; Jesse Barr d. Brad Anderson by DQ when Brad tosses Jesse over top; BUNKHOUSE BATTLE ROYAL in progress as show ends; [FIESTA GARDEN] Madril/Sawyer agree to suspend $1,000 above ring next week. DRAW-PLUS.
[Last Week]: (PINATA MATCH) Sawyer d. Madril when Madril falls off ladder. Madril hits Sawyer after & tries to steal money; Equalizer d. Doll when Grappler uses loaded boot on Doll; Grappler d. Scotty when Grap throws powder in Scotty's face; Rambo d. Anderson by DQ when ref hit, John hung. Top Gun saves. (ANGLE) Madril attacks Sawyer, cuts hair. (ANGLE) Top Gun-Grappler brawl during interview. POWERSLAM.

(NEW JAPAN) - [11/24]: (IWGP WORLD JR. HWT. TITLE) Jushin Riger d. Pegasus Kid to regain belt; (IGWP WORLD TAG TITLE) Hiroshi Hase/Kensuke Sasaki d. Keiji Mutoh/Masahiro Chono to win belts; (IWGP WORLD HWT. TITLE) Riki Choshu d. Shinya Hashimoto to retain belt. PINFALL!!!

## LINES OF THE WEEK

1. Jim Ross/Paul E. Dangerously, PH: (PED, on State Patrol): "They quit because they were tired of eating all those donuts the other officers were eating." (JR) "I don't eat donuts. I may look like it...as do you." (PE) "I weigh 148 pounds." (JR) "Your lips weigh 148 pounds." 2. Ted DiBiase, WWF-SU: "There is nothing lower than a Texan, except for maybe my bodyguard Virgil." 3. Gorilla Monsoon/Bobby Heenan, PTW: (GM) "Did you take a look at what we have this week on PRIME TIME WRESTLING?" (BH) "Yes, and this crew should be ashamed." 4. Heenan, PTW, on Margaret Thatcher's resignation: "She's lucky I wasn't there or I'd have taken the job." 5. Ross/Bob Caudle, WCW: (JR) "The Juicer hails from TOYS 'R' US." (BC) "Does he run on batteries?" 6. Paul E., PH: "I want to congratulate WCW on hiring that great ring announcer RUBHARD Jones." 7. Ross/Paul E., PH, on Stan Hansen's tobacco: (JR) "That's enough to ruin your breakfast." (PE) "Don't eat during the show. Never eat during a Hansen match." 8. Paul E., PH, on Elmer Bizzle: "He ought to be beaten up just for his name." 9. Sean Mooney, WWF: "The Undertaker reminds me of the Ghost from Christmas yet to come." 10. Heenan, PTW, on Buddy Rose: "He's a testimony to what dieting, exercise and positive thinking will do for you." 11. Heenan, PTW, on Undertaker: "He's like a 50-pound bag of ice---he's that cold!" 12. Alfred Hayes, PTW, on Boris Zhukov: "He certainly needs that hat to cover that face." 13. Hayes, PTW, on 'Whackers: "They're like a petting zoo." 14. Axel Rotten, ASWA, on Warpig: "Pig's got him in a bearhug."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Heenan, PTW, on Undertaker: "He's gonna be THE star of the '90s." 2. Ross, PH, on Scorpion's voice: "I don't like this aspect of wrestling at all." 3. Rob Russen, IWA: "ALL of the IWA shows (in 1990) made a profit. Not even the WWF or NWA can make that statement."

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - 1. Ross, PH: "How do we know the Scorpion is from Sting's past?" 2. Vince McMahon, WWF-SU, on Mr. Fuji: "Does he remind you of a Charlie Chan reject?"

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. ULTIMATE TURNCOAT (Gene Okerlund on Slaughter). 2. SKUNKMAN (McMahon/Roddy Piper on Barry Hardy). 3. KNUCKLEHEAD SMITH OF WCW (Ross on Paul E.).

BLOOPER AWARDS - 1. Don Owen, PORTLAND: "Jimmy Jack BARR." 2. Don Coss, PORTLAND, for saying, "That looks like it may be Jesse Barr," way too early in Barr-Anderson match.

## MATWATCHING

CALLING THE SHOTS: Barry Windham has acted as WCW dressing room supervisor, calling finishes. Barry assumed the role at last Monday, touching off more speculation amongst the troops.

WWF PULLS OUT: Titan is taking its CHALLENGE show off Atlanta's WVEU SUPERSTARS OF WRESTLING block, five days after the NWA canceled its two shows. But Titan syndicators insist their move is not because of Joe Pedicino's GLOBAL. Instead, they've landed a key Saturday slot for SUPERSTARS on WXIA, an NBC affil, and will move CHALLENGE to WATL, the Fox station.

IMPRESSIVE: WWF taking out impressive back-page full-color ad in several TV trade magazines called "The Ultimate" with glossies of Warrior and Hogan depicted as the ultimate action show for syndication. A lot of this is to upgrade station lineup for the NATPE programmers' convention.

WALLSTREET WATCH: I don't know if the Michael Wallstreet thing has long-term commercial potential but the USA TODAY article on Rotunda/Wallstreet on the front of its MONEY section was the fastest national profile ever on a WCW wrestler.

BACK TO FEUDIN': NWA will make another appearance on FAMILY FEUD, likely during the February sweeps. This time, it will probably be the Four Horsemen and a fifth heel. It should be Paul E. Dangerously, for whom this show is tailor-made. The office is trying to talk Goodson-Todman into opponents other than the ex-GLOW women.

KONAN'S DEBUT: Prior to Sunday night's STARRCADE, Konan made his WCW TV debut. He's scheduled to work 14 dates for the group before returning home.

GET YOUR TICKETS: At Herb Abrams' final L.A. taping, he made a constant push for people buy tickets via American Airlines to his Jan. 9 show at the Pinter Hotel in New York for Steve Williams vs. Paul Orndorff.

HELLO, LARRY: Larry Cameron, long since considered to have star potential, worked WCW tapings last Monday as well.

GLOBAL'S FIRST: Top two for the initial GWF taping in Dallas Dec. 28: Terry Funk vs. Jerry Lawler in a USWA title rematch and a USWA tag title match with Tony Anthony/Doug Gilbert defending against Steve Williams/Terry Gordy.

NICE GUY: Hollywood columnist Marilyn Beck interviewed Shelley Duvall on the SUBURBAN COMMANDO flick last week. On Hulk Hogan, Duvall said: "Hulk's part was not written like a cartoon character. It's more like he is in real life than his wrestling persona. (Hulk is) actually quite shy, well-spoken...a very nice man."

MORE ON HOGAN: Duvall is also using Hogan on a new children's series she's developing for Nickelodeon. It will allow celebrities to dramatize experiences from their childhoods. TV GUIDE told of it in its GRAPEVINE section.

IN MEMORIAM: Veteran wrestler/actor Mike Mazurki, whose ragged face was familiar in many TV supporting roles, passed away Monday at the age of 73.

WWF IN TAMPA: Tapings Tuesday night were virtually the all-jobber variety. The dark opener featured Jeff Warner as J.W. Strong (not Storm) vs. Rex King. Another newcomer: The Mongol, who some believe was ICW's Tony Rumble.

NASTY DEBUT: The Nasty Boys debuted on the show with Jimmy Hart as their manager. Road Warriors not there because of the death of Animal's mother.

AS VIRGIL TURNS: Virgil moved toward a probable turn at the ROYAL RUMBLE as Ted DiBiase slapped him several times and made him pick up $100 bills he'd dropped.

LOOKING AHEAD: NWA now taped through Jan. 12 for TBS. Norman gets a revived push, now that Ole is gone. You'll see him soon against Sid Vicious and teamed with The Juicer vs. the Freebirds. He'll take a number of head shots to move him back to his old character. Trucker Norm is dead.

THE SLAP: On one of the January shows, Paul E. and Missy Hyatt get into an stew and Missy slaps him, which will set up an arm-wrestling match between the two at the Jan. 30 CLASH XIV. Also, the opening of the WCW SEXIEST WRESTLER contest.

TAYLOR TALK: Lawrence Taylor does his first WCW interview on the Dec. 29 WPIX show and appears on WCW Jan. 5. Taylor has already been plugging his Meadowlands appearance on WFAN in New York and USA TODAY had a blurb last Wednesday.

LAST WEEK IN MEMPHIS: The Gilbert Brothers & Tony Anthony won the showdown with The Fabulous Ones & Jerry Lawler on one of those "technical loss" finishes.

WAR IN PORTLAND: Top Gun (Dave Sierra)-Grappler match skedded Saturday night. Scotty the Body's loss last week paves the way for his move to GLOBAL.

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## DALLAS PAPER TELLS VON ERICH SAGA

DALLAS---In a page one story, the Dec. 2 DALLAS TIMES-HERALD featured a three-page story, "The Fall of the Von Erichs," chronicling the end of the family's era at the Sportatorium.

Kevin Von Erich told writer Bill Muller: "It's hard to know what to do. I don't have a lawyer or anyone else to counsel me. My dad is gone so I gotta do the only thing I know how to do and that's tell the truth."

In the story, the Von Erichs depict USWA owner and former Von Erich co-partner Jerry Jarrett as the villain for their misfortunes, leading to the brothers' suit against Jarrett.

Muller wrote: "In the suit, the Von Erichs maintain Jarrett siphoned off their money for the last two years, leaving them with nothing." Said Kevin: "It really galls me that people can get away with this trickery and deception."

Jarrett responded: "When we came out here, the Von Erichs were $150,000 in debt and losing money every night. We paid off their debts and when things got profitable, they wanted me to take 30 percent [instead of 60 percent]. I just wouldn't do it."

Von Erich told Muller: "We're going to bring our kind of wrestling back. I don't want anybody feeling sorry for me. Nobody ever said life was perfect."

An earlier story by Muller had called the Von Erich brothers "virtually penniless."

## RATINGS RAP

## MAIN EVENT ROLLS TO TOP SPOT

Tying its best mark of the fall (registered just two weeks ago), the rechristened WCW MAIN EVENT posted a 3.1 rating Dec. 9 to capture the top spot in the Nielsen cable ratings for the week ending Dec. 10.

WWF has posted solid Sunday numbers the last three weeks against NFL doubleheader competition. The 5.6 per cent share was its best of the fall, buoyed by a Tom Zenk-Motor City Madman rematch and Nasty Boys-Renegade Warriors showdown.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING maintained its 2.9 rating of the previous week and the 6.1 share nearly equalled that of the November CLASH.

POWER HOUR continues to lag back. The 1.6 rating matched the PH average since its move to Saturday mornings.

On the WWF side: both PRIME TIME and ALL-AMERICAN made substantial rallies. PTW poked back to a 2.7 and ALL-AMERICAN revived from its season low to a 2.5.

### CABLE

| Week Ending Dec. 10 | Rating | Share | Total Homes |
|---|---|---|---|
| WCW MAIN EVENT (TBS 12/9) | 3.1 | 5.6 | 1.74 million |
| WCW WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (TBS 12/8) | 2.9 | 6.1 | 1.61 million |
| WWF PRIME TIME (USA 12/10) | 2.7 | 4.1 | 1.46 million |
| WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 12/9) | 2.5 | 6.4 | 1.35 million |
| WCW POWER HOUR (TBS 12/8) | 1.6 | 6.0 | 896,000 |

## MATWATCHING

(Continued from Page 5)

KONAN UPDATE: Bad news from Raleigh last Thursday: Konan damaged a knee and had to be taken for X-rays. That's why he limped at STARRCADE. Ron Simmons also banged up a knee.

LOU AT 74: He doesn't take it easy. Lou Thesz will get a shot at Masa Chono in his upcoming visit to Japan and at 74, it won't surprise me if it's a tremendous contest.

FABS/CORNY TO RETURN: Jim Cornette has agreed to return with the Fabulous Ones to Memphis Jan. 7 and had worked out an extended program with Eddie Gilbert. Mid-South Coliseum will not run Monday night.

NO TV YET: The Monday night brawl was not shown on WMC Saturday (which was delayed to a 3 p.m. start because of NFL football at 11). It'll be saved until the Jan. 5 show.

BIG TURNOUT: At least for this age. The Cornette/Fabs return drew 2,600 people (equalling SUPERCARD) and $10,800.

CLASH PREVIEWS: This is subject to change but some of the CLASH XIV matches Jan. 30 include Ric Flair against Brian Pillman and Barry & Arn putting up the tag team belts against the Renegade Warriors. Two other titles will go up.

STILL KEIRN: Steve Keirn kept the Florida belt, as usual, Thursday night in Tampa, with a win over Tex Salenger. During a ref bump, Mickey Jay had to count the final fall.

ROCKY'S BACK: Veteran Rocky Johnson returned on the Tampa bill, when he saved Hurricane Walker from a post-match attack by Ron Slinker.

QUIET TIMES: Thursday was the last show for a while at the old Tampa Sportatorium. The hall, which housed Gordon Solie's Florida show for years, is being renovated.

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